

Green Community Task Force Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2011

Present: Members P.Slattery, D. Blatt, S. DiCampo, J. McQuaid, E. Sund, N. Sullivan,
Town Liaisons M. Benson, J. Breault, J. Londa

1. P.Slattery called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. The minutes for 6/27/2011 were reviewed and approved.
2. Recycling update – The new Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center is now open the first week of the month. More information can be found at the Town webpage. Styrofoam can be recycled at places that ship packages (like Pak-Mail or UPS). Refoamit, from Rhode Island, will take 50yds of Styrofoam for \$200. No new information about the paper recycling. The solar trash compactor has been installed at Emerald Place.
3. School Projects – The THMS Solar project was online as of 6/20/11. A commissioning report and online access are still pending. The lighting upgrade at T.C. Passios is 70% done and should be completed in one week.
4. Town website- New information to be posted should be sent to M.Benson. It takes about 2-3 days for content approval after submittal. A suggestion was made to use the website, local TV access channel, the Senior Center and the Library to attract new members.
5. Landfill Solar Project- Another meeting was held on 6/30/11 with Borrego's engineers and Unitil to discuss the 1.5 MW interconnection. Net metering should not be a problem with other pending proposed solar projects in town. Unitil accepted the application on 7/25/11 but the \$2,500.00 fee has not been paid because the contract is still under review by Town Counsel. A smaller proposal may result without utilizing the capped landfill area. It may reduce the quote because less engineering is required, but also less energy production and we would have to maintain the landfill cap.
6. Other solar projects -EosolAmericas' engineers are on site hoping to make a presentation in late August/early September. They are interested in working with the Town to sell us electricity. EPG Solar is in discussions with Unitil and Twin City Church while looking for a feasible site.
7. Stretch Code- The Special Town Meeting will probably be in November. P.Slattery stressed that the GCTF needs to make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen one way or another. D.Blatt made a motion that we recommend to the Selectmen to adopt the Green Community Act and thereby the Stretch Code by bringing it Town Meeting for a vote. Five voted in Favor, one Opposed to let the Town decide. We will need someone from outside the Town to answer questions raised at Town meeting.
Now that this decision was made P. Slattery raised the question – Is the Green Community Task Force still charged with a task? The Selectmen will have to decide.
8. P.Slattery read his letter of resignation that will be submitted to the Board of Selectman. He will recommend that the GCTF continue with Green Initiatives. D.Blatt was nominated as Chairperson, S. DiCampo as Vice-Chair and J. McQuaid to remain as Secretary.
9. Our next meeting will be September 7, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. to discuss an Energy Plan to achieve the 20% reduction in use.
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McQuaid